National Commission for Women (NCW) has taken notice of and held investigation into one case of a minor girl of Thane District, Maharashtra allegedly being sold to a Yemini national for Rs. 10,000/- under the guise of marriage by a close female relative of the girl.

(c) The matter has been taken up by the Department of Women and Child Development with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Inclusion of environment as a subject

1246. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court issued notice to the All India Council for Technical Education and the National Council for Teacher Education asking them to include environment as a subject in the syllabi of the institutions under their control; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) During the course of hearing of an Interlocutory Application in Writ Petition No. 860 of 1991, in response to a notice issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) made a submission before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 6.8.2004 that they had already prepared a syllabus which includes Environmental Education and which was being updated. In pursuance of the above submission, the AICTE is in the process of updating a core model syllabus for environment studies. As regards the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), as a part of revision of its Teacher Education Curriculum, the NCTE is considering making Environment Education an integral part of the curriculum framework at all stages. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has allowed three months time to the NCTE on 6.8.2004 to finalise the revised curriculum.

Scholarships and fee structure at IIM

1247. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IIM controversy was virtually laid to rest with the ordering of immediate withdrawal of the previous order slashing fee to Rs.30,000/-;

(b) if so, whether poor students would not be denied education for want of resources and they would be given need based scholarships, which could extend to 100 per cent waiver on tuition fee;

(c) what would be the criteria of need-based scholarships; and

(d) whether the industry too would also be asked to assist in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The controversy relating to the fee structure of IIMs was settled with the Government recognizing the autonomy of these institutes to have their own fee structure and withdrawing the previous order slashing fee to Rs. 30,000/-.

(b) to (d) The Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are empowered to take all decisions regarding fee structure. The Board of Governors of IIMs at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kolkata, Lucknow, Indore and Kozhikode have decided that:

(i) All the IIMs will provide a need-based scholarships to both first and second year students;

(ii) All the students admitted, whose annual gross family income is Rs. 2.00 lakh and below, will be eligible for scholarships upto 100 per cent tuition fee waiver.

The three IIMs at Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Kolkata have made provisions from their internal resources for the need-based scholarships. The other three IIMs at Lucknow, Indore and Kozhikode will be assisted by the Ministry of HRD to the extent of additional expenditure that they have to bear on account of the waiver of tuition fees. In addition, the IIMs are at liberty to seek industry's support for creating a fund of their own to provide need-based financial scholarships to students.

Appointments of SC/ST teachers

1248. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1953 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 2003 and state:

(a) what is the justification for not allowing 5 per cent concession in marks to SC/ST candidates in minimum eligibility criteria for recruitment of teachers in the Kendriya Vidyalayas;